Application/Control Number: 09/405,088 Page 2

Art Unit: 3718

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This is an Examiner's statement of reason for allowance.

2. Regarding the claimed terms, the Examiner notes that a "general term must be

understood in the context in which the inventor presents it." In re Glaug 283 F.3d 1335,

1340, 62 USPQ2d 1151, 1154 (Fed. Cir. 2002). Therefore the Examiner must interpret

the claimed terms as found on pages 1-17 of the specification. Clearly almost all the

general terms in the claims may have multiple meanings. So where a claim term "is

susceptible to various meanings, . . . the inventor's lexicography must prevail " Id.

Using these definitions for the claims, the claimed invention was not reasonably found in

the prior art.

3. The closest prior art Angles et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,933,811) which discloses a

system/method for a sponsored games network. However, Angles singularly or in

combination fails to disclose the recited feature:

4. As per claims 1, 47 and 54 "scan the game data to identify a placeholder, insert

an instruction in the game data to instruct a user terminal to cause presentation of the

advertising during a break point in game play, insert, at the game sponsoring gateway,

the advertising at the placeholder, and initiate transmission of the agme data to the user

terminal".

Conclusion

Application/Control Number: 09/405,088 Page 3

Art Unit: 3718

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 571 272 6706. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00. Hoteler.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571 272 4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Pierre E. Elisca/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3718